

HCS HB 422 -- PROPERTY EXEMPT FROM EXECUTION

SPONSOR: Cornejo

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Judiciary by a vote of 11 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Committee on Rules- Legislative Oversight by a vote of 10 to 1.

This bill adds engagement rings valued up to \$1,500 to the list of property exempt from attachment and execution. Currently, any miscellaneous property valued up to \$600 in the aggregate is exempt from attachment and execution. This bill increases the value to \$1,200. The bill also adds 401(k)s and any type of individual retirement arrangement as defined by Publication 590 of the IRS, but this exemption is limited by federal law.

Finally, the law currently allows each head of a family to select and hold various property and debts and wages valued up to \$1,250 plus up to \$350 for each head's unmarried dependent children under the age of 21, to be exempt from execution. This bill increases the values to \$1,650 plus \$450 for the person's unmarried dependent children under the age of 21.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that this bill simply updates execution exemptions. The federal bankruptcy code permits states to adopt the federal code or create their own codes. These exemptions are similar to those in the federal code, but they are being placed in the Missouri code in the event the federal code changes.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Cornejo and Wendell Sherk.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.